



Docket No. 1232-4563

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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OCT 04 2001

Technology Center 2600

: Yasuo Okutani and Masayuki Yamada

Serial No. : 09/386,052

Group Art Unit:

2641

Filed : August 30, 1999

Examiner: Angela A. Armstrong

For : SPEECH SYNTHESIZING APPARATUS AND METHOD, AND
STORAGE MEDIUM THEREFOR

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R:

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated March 27, 2001. A Petition for a Three Month Extension of Time, along with the associated fee is enclosed, extending the time for responding until September 27, 2001.

Please amend this application as follows:

In The Claims

Please cancel claims 7 and 18 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 1, 8, 9, 12, 19, 20, 23 and 24 as follows. (Amendments to the claims are should in the Appendix attached hereto.)

1.(amended) A speech synthesizing apparatus comprising:
storage means for storing plural items of phoneme data;
retrieval means for retrieving phoneme data, in accordance with given retrieval
conditions, from the plural items of phoneme data stored in said storage means;

10/04/2001 BNGUYEN1 00000035 134500 09386052

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